

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## REPORT

DATE OF INFORMATION 1953

DATE DIST. 30 Jul 1953

NO. OF PAGES 4

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U.S.C. 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

SOURCE                      Nowe Drogi, Vol VII, No 3 (45).

[Comment: The following information is taken from one of the commentaries made by dignitaries of the PZPR (Polish United Workers' Party) on Bierut's keynote address at the Eighth Plenum of the party's Central Committee, held 28 March 1953. Each of the commentaries, given in abridged form in Nowe Drogi, is an amplification of Bierut's keynote speech "The Struggle for Continued Strengthening of the Party and the National Front."

Josef Olszewski, first secretary of the KW (Komitet Wojewodzki, Wojewodztwo Committee) of the PZPR, whose commentary is given below, criticized the poor quality of party leadership in the daily task of instilling correct worker attitudes.<sup>7</sup>

A striking example of an important political victory gained recently by us, through a full political mobilization of the people conducted by the party, was the price and wage reform of 3 January 1953. This necessary reform, whose reach was wide--perhaps the widest of all our advancements of this type--in daily life, influencing the domestic budget of workers, was not simple or easy for the people to understand. There was the basic apprehension that perhaps many misunderstandings would arise if the purpose of the reform were not explained properly to the people; and that if the policies of the party in this matter were not clarified to the people, an enemy could create much confusion, causing indecision in the minds of the people. Today we must confirm that the intensive agitation of the enemy in this matter quickly ended in a fiasco, because through intensified political work in pointing out the benefits of the reform, the people were convinced of the necessity of this reform through their own experience, in a relatively short time.

Today, less than 3 months after the reform, the first favorable effects are apparent not only in commodity distribution, but also in production. In Slask, where market conditions had produced constant shortages in supplies, causing many problems for the entire country, market conditions are now orderly.

- 1 -

RESTRICTED

STATE		Navy	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION					
ARMY	AIR		FBI							

RESTRICTED

STAT

We have a full supply of fats, meat, dairy products, sugar, and other important commodities. The reform has resulted in increased work productivity in many plants and branches of production.

Other favorable results of this reform did not occur spontaneously. They arose from a close connection with a number of other factors resulting from intensive political work conducted by the party. Events of the last 6 months, particularly the death of Stalin, prove that on major issues the party can mobilize the support of the masses. The party also has the wherewithal to improve its work in achieving leadership in even the most trivial daily matters. It must be admitted, however, that in this sphere there are many shortcomings.

Comrade Stalin teaches that the party must take into consideration changes that take place in people. With the increased participation and the increased critical consciousness of the working class, there must be improved party leadership. In this sphere, our Stalinogrod Wojewodztwo party organization has many shortcomings. In the past year, we had important failures in the fulfillment of production plans, causing a particularly unfavorable situation in the fourth quarter of 1952. The situation at the beginning of the new economic year was also unfavorable. Our party organization owes the Central Committee an explanation as to whether or not there has been an improvement in the situation since then.

There has been some improvement in the coal industry. The plans for January, February, and March were fulfilled, and the quarterly plan was overfulfilled by nearly 200,000 tons. In the first quarter of 1953, over 700,000 more tons of coal were mined than in the fourth quarter of 1952, and daily production has increased by more than 8,600 tons.

In metallurgy, the plan for steel production was overfulfilled in February and March, thus making up almost half of the January deficiency. The plan for production of pig iron was also fulfilled in February, and will be fulfilled in March, but the January deficiency will be reduced only slightly. The production plan for rolled metal products is steadily being fulfilled; the quarterly plan was fulfilled with a surplus. The textile industry, too, is fulfilling the plan, and the production plans for coke, cement, and others are also being met.

The rapid improvement in the coal industry was due partly to the increased working force. However, the decisive factors were changes in the system of management and in methods of worker mobilization. Comrade Bierut's arrival in Slask, his speech, and the recommendations carried out daily under his direct guidance brought an important improvement in the fulfillment of the plan.

Comrade Bierut in his Slask speech gave the party organizations a keen analysis of the errors and shortcomings in managing the industry. He pointed out that political work must not be dissociated from economic activity. It is political work that determines the fulfillment of plans and the mobilization of people. However, political organizations should not act in the place of economic organizations, but, rather, through them. He pointed out the faulty practice, still quite common in Poland, of having the party organizations act in the place of the administrative apparatus with obvious detriment to the matter under consideration. Comrade Bierut pointed out the necessity of strengthening one-man management, elevating the authority and qualifications of supervisors, intensifying work discipline, and eliminating bureaucratic methods in work competition. The party organizations reworked the program, and the secretaries of the POP (Podstawowa Organizacja Partyjna, Primary Party Organization) in all the main branches of production thoroughly studied the program at 3-day seminars called by the KW. The last 2 months have been devoted to the fight for realization of this program, and the first favorable results have been obtained--an improvement in the system of management, and an improvement in the fulfillment of plans.

It must be admitted that many of our organizations up to now have not given proper attention to these problems. The lack of skill in connecting political work with economic activity, and flight from daily intensive political work

- 2 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STAT

among the people, particularly in the coal industry, result primarily from inept leadership in economic activity, from an inadequate assimilation of Stalin's teachings in this sphere by the organizations, and from the low political level of many of our party organizations and activists. All these weaknesses have been harassing the Stalinogrod party organization.

The pursuit of immediate economic and political goals without long-range vision indicates that we are not sufficiently expanding the horizons of our activists and of our party apparatus. Statistics covering party training, which is an important element of ideological education, confirm this. Whereas two thirds of the members participate in various kinds of training on shop and gmina committee levels, only 151 out of 1,169 members, or about 15 percent, attend on the powiat and municipal committee levels. This situation, naturally, thwarts any growth in the activist group and improvement in its quality. Actually over 40 percent of the members of wojewodztwo, powiat, and municipal committees in the Stalinogrod wojewodztwo attended either wojewodztwo or central party schools. However, after returning from the schools, the majority -- even powiat committee instructors and factory and gmina committee secretaries -- do not work on self-improvement.

During the last 6 months, our organization did make certain efforts in ideological work, such as a notable expansion of the training network, particularly in large plants. An evening university on Marxism and Leninism was started in Stalinogrod with 250 students. The number of lectures has increased, and we devote more attention than heretofore to the radio, press, theater, and education, but all this is still not sufficient. The quality of direction in these matters is very low not only on the gmina and powiat committee levels, but also on the wojewodztwo committee level. We will have to take further steps to improve ideological training and to overcome the attitude, strongly imbedded in the Stalinogrod party organization, of slighting these matters. Wherever efforts are made, some results are being obtained. For instance, in accordance with the directive of the party leadership, our organization devoted specially arranged party meetings to the political training of supervisory personnel; these included so-called engineer and technician meetings at mines and at metallurgical and other plants. At these meetings we reached over 4,000 comrades. The tasks and the problem of political education were discussed with the supervisory personnel. The results were good. At 51 mines where this has been done, the number of supervisors participating in political training increased during 2 months from 2,000 to 5,000 persons. Of the 250 attending the evening university on Marxism and Leninism, 138, or over one half, are engineers and technicians from mining and metallurgical industries.

Other forms of technical education are also expanding. Lectures conducted by the NOT (Naczelna Organizacja Techniczna, Chief Technical Organization) were attended by over 100,000 persons and over 2,200 engineers and technicians take part in the work of technical and rationalizers' clubs.

Comrade Bierut in his speech particularly stressed the necessity for intensifying ideological work in the party. In this sphere, a particular responsibility falls upon our wojewodztwo organization. Our wojewodztwo, named after Stalin, has the responsibility of leadership in incorporating Stalin's teachings into the political, economic, and organizational work. The great expansion of the work competition program proves that the working class of Slask and the Zaglobie (Coal Basin) appreciates this. A measure of the people's attitude is the influx of applications to the party during the last 2 weeks. From the death of Stalin to 26 March, 4,600 persons submitted applications to join the party, which is equivalent to the total number accepted during the last 8 months. Of the applicants, 68 percent are workers, including 1,100 miners and smelters, and 17 percent are intellectuals.

Many opportunists try to enter the party, and some of our organizations, as for example, the Bielsk Powiat organization, the Bytom municipal organization, and some precinct organizations in Stalinogrod which handle the applications to the party, have not shown sufficient solicitude for the purity of the ranks or for the proper composition of the party organization.

- 3 -

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

STAT

This influx into the party testifies to the confidence in our policies, to the increase in political activity, and to the quality of the working class. This influx, which is evident in the entire country, is an eloquent answer to those who expected confusion among the people after the death of Stalin.

The building of the foundation for socialism in Poland and the realization of the Six-Year Plan are no longer problems of the distant future. With the party's aid, plans of the past are realities of today. The metallurgical industry is an example of this. Of the four blast furnaces which are to be put into operation in our wojewodztwo under the Six-Year Plan, two have already been built and the remaining two will be activated in 1953. The same holds true for open-hearth furnaces and rolling mills. In the coal tar derivative industry, one half of the new coking batteries have already been put into operation. At the end of 1953, the capacity of electric power plants in our wojewodztwo will be more than twice the 1949 capacity, and the installed capacity will be greatly increased.

This situation places before us the necessity of improving the methods of party work to assure the full mastery and utilization of plants and equipment, to assure a timely activation of new investments, to provide cadres needed by the country, and to improve the quality of political leadership on the economic front.

At present, the party is making great efforts to eliminate shortcomings and to fulfill production plans at an even rate. However, whatever progress has been made in this sphere in Slask has not been the result of improved party political work; that is, of daily contact between members and non-members. There has been an improvement in political work on a mass scale, but still the greater part of the forces are devoted to organizational work and spot mobilization. Agitation is still weak, activities of the enemy are met with insufficient resistance, particularly in the coal industry, and solicitude about the living conditions of the working class is inadequate. In Slask recently, some obstacles have been encountered in overcoming the instigation of sectional feeling, on which the enemy thrives.

- E N D -

- 4 -

RESTRICTED